

Describes you:

- Faith and hope in God and others sustain me.
- Illness is to be expected.
- Illness does not fit in my life right now.
- Where is God in all this?
- I only wish I could have done something differently.

Any thoughts, issues, concerns, and stressors in life:

Would you like to talk with a chaplain?
Your nurse will be happy to contact a chaplain for you or you may call direct at 406.237.8231.



Helping Patients

Palliative Care Services team members will meet with you to assess your needs. They are available to discuss with you Advance Care Planning and help you make future health care choices. If you wish they will help you complete an advance directive, like the Five Wishes® booklet.

Team members will talk with you about your physical needs and treat your symptoms. For example these may include:

- Pain
- Fatigue (tiredness)
- Shortness of breath
- Nausea
- Loss of appetite

They are able to help concerns that may be distressing to you such as:

- Depression
- Loss of control
- Anxiety or loneliness

Many patients discuss fears about dying and/or being a burden to their families or loved ones.

Chaplains are available to discuss your spiritual and religious concerns.

Care management staff is available to help you with addressing financial and legal concerns.

For more information, please contact:
Palliative Care Services
406.237.8220

Spiritual Care

*To cure sometimes,
relieve often,
and comfort always.*



Who We Are

The professionals in the Spiritual Care Department have received academic preparation and clinical training for this specialized ministry of healing. We are part of a healthcare team, which recognizes that acceptance, hope, forgiveness, love, and peace are qualities that facilitate healing in our lives.

Because we believe that everyone has an innate spirituality, but not a common religion, we are committed to serving the spiritual needs of all patients, families and staff, whatever their religious tradition. We will gladly contact a minister, rabbi, or other spiritual leader upon request.

Why Spiritual Care is Here

It has long been recognized that emotional and spiritual care play an important role in the medical setting. There is growing evidence that religious beliefs and spirituality bring forth and support the body's inner healing systems.

Resources are available to explore your experience, some of the underlying factors/stressors in life, and their relationship to body-mind-spirit.

Our Mission

We will, in the spirit of the Sisters of Charity, reveal God's healing love by improving the health of the individuals and communities we serve, especially those who are poor or vulnerable.



The Services We Offer

Crisis Intervention

Counseling/Dialogue

Ministry to Patients and Families

- Examine faith/health relationship
- Name and make use of spirituality and belief systems
- Verbalize change and recovery
- Assistance in making ethical decisions
- Grief facilitation
- Prayer, sacraments and spiritual support

Ministry to Staff

- Interdisciplinary care for patients and families
- Partnership in search for God's presence
- Staff support
- Consultation on ethical issues

Sacramental Ministry (available upon request)

- Daily communion to Catholic patients
- Reconciliation
- Anointing of the sick
- Emergency baptism

Chapel and Inspirational Television

- Roman Catholic Mass is televised from our chapel Tuesday and Thursday at 11:30 am on Channel 18 (times subject to change)
- Meditative music and scenery broadcast on Channel 18
- Chapel is located on first floor Allard, open at all times for prayer and meditation

Contact Us

The Spiritual Care Department is located on the first floor of the Allard Building. Chaplains are available 24-hours a day, 7 days a week. You may ask your nurse or the operator to contact a chaplain or phone us at 406.237.8231.

Prayers...

Prayer of Saint Francis

*LORD, make me an instrument of Your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love. Where there
is injury, pardon. Where there is doubt, faith. Where
there is despair, hope. Where there is darkness, light.
And where there is sadness, joy.*

*GRANT that I may not so much seek to be consoled
as to console. To be understood as to understand.
To be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we
receive. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned. It
is in dying that we are born to eternal life.*

Before Surgery

*God of compassion and mercy, you never fail to
help and comfort those who cry to you for relief.
Give me strength and courage in this hour of need.
Hold me and I shall be safe; let me feel that you are
near; let me know that beneath me are your
everlasting arms. Resting on your loving protection,
may I not be afraid. You are with me.*

A Traditional Native American Prayer

*On Great Spirit whose voice I hear in the wind
whose breath gives life to all the world.
Hear me; I need your strength and wisdom.
Let me walk in beauty, and make my eyes ever
behold the red and purple sunset.
Make my hands respect the things you have made
and my ears sharp to hear your voice.
Make me wise so that I may understand the
things you have taught my people.*

*Help me to remain calm and strong in the face of
all that comes towards me.*

*Let me learn the lessons you have hidden
in every leaf and rock.*

*Help me seek pure thoughts and act with the
intention of helping others.*

*Help me find compassion without empathy
overwhelming me.*

*I seek strength, not be greater than my brother,
but to fight my greatest enemy, myself.*

*Make me always ready to come to you with
clean hands and straight eyes.*

*So when life fades, as the fading sunset, my
spirit may come to you without shame.*

A Prayer for Healing

*Loving and tender God,
Touch my heart with hope,
Touch my mind with clarity,
Touch my soul with peace, and
Touch my body with the warmth of
your healing presence.*

Grant me

*Courage to face the future,
Insight to understand life's trials,
Wisdom to discern how I can touch
the lives of others, and
The comfort of persons who care
about me as I reach for your
loving hands.*

Morning

*Lord, I thank you for the dawn of this day. I need
every ray of sunshine and the darkness of the
morning to fill my life with light. So many things
are going to happen today and I am waiting.
The doctors will come: what will they say? Help me,
Lord, to accept what is. Be with me throughout the
day. Remind me each morning of your constant
love. I put my trust in you. Amen.*

Evening

*Loving God, I thank you for this day and now
I rest in your abiding presence, relaxing every
tension, releasing every care and anxiety, receiving
more and more of your healing life into every part
of my being.*

*In moments of pain I turn to you for strength, in
times of loneliness I feel your loving nearness. Lord,
give me strength and the will to persevere. Don't
let me lose courage, don't let me despair. Now, as
darkness falls, let me find my refuge in you. You
are with me. In your mercy grant me a peaceful
sleep. Amen.*

Serenity

*God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I
cannot change, the courage to change the things
I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.*

The Twenty-Third Psalm

*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures
He leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness for his
names' sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for you are with me,
your rod and your staff comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence
of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over:
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all
the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house
of the Lord forever.*

A Jewish Prayer for Healing

*In sickness I turn to You, O God, for comfort and
help. Strengthen within me the wondrous power
of healing that You implanted in your children.
Guide my doctors and nurses that they may speed
my recovery. Let my dear ones find comfort and
courage in the knowledge that You are with us
at all times, in sickness and in health. May my
sickness not weaken my faith in You, nor diminish
my love for others. From my illness may I gain a
fuller sympathy for all who suffer. I praise you,
O God, the source of healing.*

About You

The following areas may be helpful in thinking about what is important to you as a person, your values, and what you are finding out about yourself during this illness.

Name _____

Room # _____

Sense of hope *(please check one):*

- Extremely hopeful
- Somewhat hopeful
- Neutral / Ambivalent
- Fearful / Anxious
- Helpless / Paralyzed

How are you coping/handling your illness?

- Extremely well
- Very well
- Somewhat well
- Not very well
- Not well at all